

Claims

1. A method of printing comprising:
Combining flexographic printing with intaglio printing in a common press.
2. A web fed printing press comprising:
at least one flexographic printing module equipped to apply variable amounts of motion and tension to a web substrate;
at least one intaglio printing module equipped to apply variable amounts of motion and tension to said web substrate; and
means for controlling the amounts of motion and tension applied by the flexographic printing module and by the intaglio printing module to said web substrate.
3. The web fed printing press according to Claim 1, wherein said means for controlling the amounts of motion and tension applied to said web substrate by said at least one flexographic printing module and by said at least one intaglio printing module comprises a host processor and first and second motion control processors.
4. The web fed printing press according to Claim 2, wherein the first motion control processor controls the amounts of motion and tension imparted to the web substrate by the intaglio printing module.
5. The web fed printing press according to Claim 3, wherein said first motion control processor generates a plurality of timing signals and the second motion control processor utilizes said timing signals to control the amounts of motion and tension imparted to the web substrate by the flexographic printing module.
6. The web fed printing press according to Claim 3, wherein the means for controlling the amounts of motion and tension applied by the intaglio printing module to said web substrate further comprises a reference encoder, said reference encoder generating a reference signal corresponding to the motion of said web substrate.

7. The web fed printing press according to Claim 5, wherein the first motion control processor utilizes the reference signal generated by the reference controller to control the amounts of motion and tension imparted to the web substrate by the intaglio printing module.

8. The web fed printing press according to Claim 2, wherein said means for controlling the amounts of motion and tension applied by the flexographic printing module and by the intaglio printing module to said web substrate further comprises at least one servo motor on said at least one intaglio printing module and at least one servo motor on said at least one flexographic printing module.

9. The web fed printing press according to claim 7, wherein said at least one servo motor on said at least one intaglio printing module is mechanically connected to said web substrate and electrically connected to said first motion control processor.

10. The web fed printing press according to claim 7, wherein said at least one servo motor on said at least one Flexographic printing module is mechanically connected to said web substrate and is electrically connected to said second motion control processor.

11. The web fed printing press according to Claim 2, wherein said first motion control processors is mounted in a first RISC based motion control board and said second motion control processor is mounted in a second RISC based motion control board.

12. The web fed printing press according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one flexographic printing module precedes said at least one intaglio printing module.

13. The web fed printing press according to Claim 2, wherein means for bypassing said at least one intaglio printing module are provided.

14. The web fed printing press according to Claim 12, wherein said means for

bypassing said at least one intaglio printing module comprises a synthesized reference signal, said synthesized reference signal being utilized by the second motion control processor to control the amounts of motion and tension imparted to the web substrate by said at least one flexographic printing module.